



Sheila Dixon

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Mayor Sheila Dixon Announces Consultant to Study Electricity Aggregation

Baltimore, MD (July 2, 2007) – Mayor Sheila Dixon announced the selection of South River Consulting to study the feasibility of electricity aggregation. South River Consulting was the unanimous choice of a panel in the Baltimore City Department of Public Works.

Mayor Dixon called for the study in response to the recent increases in utility rates for Baltimore City residents. As Council President, Mayor Dixon worked with Councilman Bernard C. “Jack” Young to investigate electricity aggregation and other forms of rate relief for Baltimore City residents through a City Council resolution and public hearing. Throughout the United States, municipalities have helped lower their citizen’s utility bills with electricity aggregation.

On June 1, the Mayor requested submissions from consultants interesting in reviewing the best practices for electricity and natural gas aggregation programs nationwide and to describe the advantages, disadvantages, costs and benefits of incorporating an aggregation model locally. The city received proposals from four companies.

In addition to a review of best practices in electricity aggregation, South River Consulting is required to recommend strategies to expand the supply of electricity (from renewable energy/green power generation sources) and curb demand (through innovative conservation programs.)

South River Consulting, a Maryland company, was chosen based on having a sufficiently sized staff to complete a thorough study in the allotted time, and because of their experience aggregating electricity and gas for City government and the Baltimore City Public School System. \$150,000 has been appropriated for the study.

“This comprehensive study will move us beyond the finger pointing and quick fixes that have characterized much of the debate about the recent rate increases and allow city government, elected officials, businesses and residents to make informed decisions about alternative models,” said Mayor Sheila Dixon.

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